INTERESTING PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS

Passage in the House of the Bill Designating the 4th of Morch as the Time for the Meeting of Congress.

The Bill Regulating the Tenure of office Reported in the Senate.

Protracted Senatorial Debate on the Distriot of Columbia Franchise Bill.

Correspondence Relating to the Discovery

and Arrest of John H. Surratt. &c.

The Fortierla Congress.

adoption by the House of an act for the assembling
Fortieth Congress on the 4th of March will throw
representation six loyal States, unless otherwise
ged for by special act:—namely, New Hampshire,
votes for Representatives in March; Rhode Island es for Representatives in March; Rhode Island sections, in April; California, in September

ition of Territories, and organize them anew into it is averred, but that the movement will thu

United States Supreme Court to-day the case our test outh was resumed. There was some on that a decision would be rendered in this morning, but Lorenzo Sherwood, of Texas, ad stating, in substance, that it was a matter in which oyal people of the South took a deep interest, and himself and General A. J. Hamilton, of Texas, of the opinion that the case on behalf of the gov-

ed to applicants in open court, and the ap and there subscribe to the test oath. This infor

is the best authority for saying that the Presit he will remain where he is until arrangements car

but declined on account of ill health.
al Grant and Lady Give a Grand Fancy

Dress Manquerude to Juveniles. and fancy dress masquerade was given to night ral and Mrs. General Grant to juveniles at their on, Sir Peter Teazle, knights, trouba d as fairles, queens and gypsies. It was a mo

The Safety of Human Life on Shipboard.

The Secretary of the Treasury has addressed the to swing circular to inspectors of steamboats:— Sns.—On the 6th ult, a circular letter was addressed to be supervising inspectors of steamboats in the seven istricts, calling their attention to the provisions of se-tention of the act of July 25, 1866, and directing their

Payment of State Debts Incurred During the War.

The memorial of Comptroller Hillhouse, of New York, urges Congress in a lengthy argument to provide for the payment of the State debts incurred in the prosecution the war. The object for which they were incurred declares to be no less national than the preservation of the government, and that a weakness in the members of the Union would have been incompatible with vigor in the head, and therefore policy, no less than justice, calls for payment of those debts. He decus it doubtful whether, with the currency in a normal condition, State taxes, levied on real or personal property, will more than suffice for ordinary State expenses—taxes which bear inequally on land and tend to oppress the farming interests, on which the prosperity of all others depends. He therefore proposes that the general government shall relinquish some particular source of revenue to the several States, to be used in the liquidation of war debts, and suggests that the tax on incomes be thus relin especially as it is questionable whether it comes within the meaning of the word "indirect" in the constitutional clause concerning taxation.

President Johnson has to-day issued an order, in com-cliance with the suggestion of a memorial presented to him by Br. J. H. Griscom, on behalf of the New York Prison Amoutation, granting the privileges of the com-mutation system of the State of New York to all convicts under sentence of the civil and military courts of the United States, extending to them the same elements and shatement of time, upon the same terms provided for the convicts under sentence of the courts of the State, as an inducement and consideration for good con-duct and faithful and diligent attention of the convicts in the observance of the regulations of the prisons and in the performance of the work imposed upon them. This benevolent suggestion received the prompt and acciding sugest of the President, and in accordance therewith the Attorney General was requested immediately to prepare a mitable document for the execution of the design—a movement which will undoublestly increase the good order of the prisoners and encourage the reformation of those from whom the benefits of the law have heretofore been withheld. A law of similar purposes a processing to all the filters to the formation of the second processes. port, applicable to all the States in the Union, was to-

agreed upop any financial measure, therefore it is not true, as has been telegraphed hence, that they have decided favorably upon Representative Beutwell's proposition contemplating weekly mise of gold.

All attempts to interfere with the national banks or the currency were summarily voted down in the House to-day. These straws are highly suggestive of the financial policy of Congress during the present session. The House Investigating Committees.

Among the committees of investigation appointed by the House to-day that relative to the New Orleans riot—Elliot, of Massachusetts, chairmain—will soon proceed south, probably to-morrow. That relative to the murder of three soldiers in South Carolina, and the facts concerning the discharge of the culprits—Pike, chairconcerning the discharge of the culprits-Pike, chair-man-will hold its meetings here, as will also that engaged in investigating frauds upon the revenue, Darling

In the case of a soldier, recently deceased, who had bequeathed his claim for extra bounty to a person to whom he was indebted for attendance, it has been deinherit the bounty bequeathed him by the deceased sol

information has been obtained from the Secondor as shown by the muster rolls and other docu ments on file in his office.

ments on file in his office.

Transportation of Officers and Soldiers.

It has been decided that officers or soldiers who decidine to accept transportation in kind upon muster out will not be allowed any claim to pay for travel to place

The President and Secretary of War are enveloped with difficulties of a perplexing character in deciding upon the few fortunate individuals of the legions of deserving among the aspirants for these agreeable positions is energetic and persistent. But six appointments have seen made within the last few months, four of which— George Pomeroy, J. Steinberger, William G. Moore and George P. Ire—were made to fill vacancies in the old regular army. Under the provisions of the new army bill Colonels N. B. Brown and D. McClure, who have been discharging the duties of Deputy Paymaster General have been appointed Assistant Paymaster Generals, and J. C. McGrath, of Missouri, and W. W. Johnson, of Obio, have been appointed Paymasters.
The Femule Clerks in the Treasury Depart.

ment.
The subject of dispensing with the employment of

women in the Treasury Department is undergoing dis-cussion. It is asserted that while many of them are stants is taken up in remains to employ women and is explaining the reason for such refusal. There are now from fifty to one hundred more women in the Treasur, Department than the Secretary is justified in retaining In view of all the disadvantages attending the employ ment of women, and the continued pressure for appoint missing all the female employes.

The Mananchusetts Liquer Cases.

Mr. Richardson, of Boston, arrived this morning and
entered for trial in the Supreme Court of the United
States several liquer cases involving questions not de-Congress to change the law upon the subject.

## THIRTY-NINTH CONGRESS.

Second Session.

SENATE.

Washington, Dec. 10, 1806.

Mesers. Brown, (rep.) of Mo., and Sprague, (rep.) of
R. I., absent hereiofore, apprared in their seats.

Mr. Mondan, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a Mr. Money, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a me-morial of the Chamber of Commerce of New York, representing that the records and papers in the Clerk's office of the United States District Court for the Southern district of Mississippi, have been des-troyed by fire, which documents contained evidence of great importance to citizens of the Northern, Eastern

THE PEABLELITY OF A TRANSPARE LINE TO THE WRIT COAST OF PRANCE.

Mr. MORGAN presented resolutions of the Chamber of

Mr. Moncas presented resolutions of the Chamber of Commerce of New York in favor of the employment of a portion of the national navy for the purpose of accertaining by proper soundings the facilities afforded by the hed of the Atlants Ocean for laying lines of telegraphic cable directly connecting our Atlantic coast with the Western coast of France and Southern Europe. Referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

AN INCREASED DUTY ON BILE MANUFACTURES AVEED.

Mr. FRINSORUTSES, (rep.) of N J, presented the memorial of the silk manufacturers of New Jersey, praying for the passage of a terif bill increasing the duty on silk manufactures, which was referred to the Committee on Finance.

FROUECTION TO DEMESTIC WOOL GROWERS.

Mr. Ramay, (rep.) of Minn., offered the following resolution, which was agreed to:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Lands be directed to inquire into the expediency of making the Agricultural and Mennankai College land serrip receivable in payment for pre-emptions.

and Memanical Collegs land corp research by pre-empions.

THE FOPELATION AND WEALTH OF COLORADO.

Mr. Wans, (rep.) of Ohio, presented a memorial of citizens of Colorado, controverting the statements made that the Territory is declining in ropulation, wentth and industry, and setting forth numerous statistics and facts relative thereto, as telegraphed to the Associated Pressysteterday. The memorial was ordered printed.

INCHESION, (rep.) of Mass. Presented a polition for increased pay of army officer, which was referred to the hillitary Commuttee.

\*\*RENDEGARIZATION AND INCREAGED PAY ASKED BY DEPARTMENT OF ARMS.

Mr. Pressyrem, (ren.) of Me., presented petitions from

REGIONALIZATION AND INCREMENT PAY ARRED BY DEPARTMENT OF THE REST CLERKS.

Mr. Freezender, (rep.) of Me., presented petitions from department clerks asking a reorganization of the clerical force of the departments and increase of pay. Referred to the Committee on Finance.

Mr. Morgan, (rep.) of N. Y., presented a petition for increased import dety on lineed oil. Referred to the Finance Committee.

PRISONLATION OF CONNELL RESTLY PETITION.

Mr. NUMBER, (rep.) of Mass, presented the petition of Mr. Cornell Jewett, that hamilial Hamilia be declared President of the United States. (Laughter), Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

The Advisory of Petition of Territories, reported back the bill to admit Nebracks, with a recommendation that it page.

Mr. Wars, from the Committee on Perritories, reported back the bill to admit Nebra ka, with a recommendation that it page.

Mr. Ersecuse, (rep.) of Vt., from the Committee on Betreneliment, to whose has been referred Mr. Withams bill to regulate the term of office, reported the following as a substitute and recommended that it pays:

Be it enumed by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that every princes, excepting the recerciones of States, of the Treasure, or Very of the Says, and of the Inciding any avit mass decirated and the Attorney General, reading any avit made deciral and the Attorney General, reading any avit addition and consent the form of the Committee of t

Mr. Linkus accordingly.

ied his motion accordingly.

Mr. Ware introduced a bill for the admission of Colorado. Referred to the Cummittee on Territories.

SAN FRANCISCO CENTRAL PACEFIC NALLMARAD.

Mr. CONNESS, (rep.) of Cal., introduced a bill to grant aid for the construction of the San Francisco Central Pacific Railroad. Referred to the Committee on Public.

their license by the inspectors, and at a safe distance from firs.

Mr. Harris, (rep.) of N. Y. presented a bill relative to persons imprisoned under sentence for offences against the laws of the United States, which provides that all persons convicted of offences against the laws of the United States and imprisoned in the multientaines of the United States, shall have the benefit of all laws of the State in which they are imprisoned for all laws of the State in which they are imprisoned for offences against the laws of the State, as a reward for or incentive to good conduct and obedience to prison rules, mitigation of sentence or reducing term of imprisonment, or any other privileges whatever, and authorizes district judges to cause the law to be executed, and to give to the warden or keeper of the prison certificate for the discharge of any convict before the expiration of his term, or for other mitigation of punishment in pursuance of the provisions of the State laws aforesaid. The bill was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

\*\*THEORAFIE LINES ON THE FRANCYAL MAIL ROUTES.\*\*

Mr. Brown offered the following recolution, which was agreed to:—

Resolved, That the Committee on Fost Offices and Post

and every main person, excepting pasigers and persons under suardinable of the age of twenty-one years and upwards, who has not been convicted of any infamous crime or offence and excepting persons who have rotuntarily left the District of Columbia to give aid and comfort to the rebells in the late rebellson, and who is a citizen of the United States, and who shall have resided in the said district for the period of six months previous to any election therein, shall be elective franchisa, and shall be deemed an elector, and estimate the course at any election, in said district of the period of six months previous to any election, in said district without any disturction on account of color or duty it shall be to receive votes at any election within the District of Columbia who shall wilfully reject the rote of any person entitled to such rights under this each shall be liable to an action of tort by the person injured, and shall be liable on action of tort by the person injured, and shall be liable on action of tort by the person injured, and shall be liable on indictment and convection, if such act was done knowingly, to a fine not exceeding so 500 or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding one year in the jail of said District, or to both.

Sac. 3 That if any person or persons shall wilfully interrupt or disturb any such elector in the exceeded so such franchise, he or they shall be the dement gority of a misdemannous chiese, he or they shall be deemed gority of a misdemannous of the court.

Sac. 4. That it shall be the day of the several courts having jurisdiction in said District for a period not to exceed thirty days, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Sac. 4. That it shall be the day of the saveral courts having jurisdiction in said District to give this get is appealed charge in the first and part of the court.

Sac. 5. That the Mayors and Aldermen or the office such term of the court.

Sac. 6. That the Mayors and Aldermen or the office with this act, to and the same are hereby repealed.

Sac. 6.

shift discret for the percet of one was next perceding any election, not who shall have paid the later assessed against them, and who can read and who can write their names.

Mr. Monaut, said the bill had been so long before the Secate, and was so well understood, that he did not deem any extended remarks on it necessary at this thins. He would sale to the Senate briefly what was proposed by the bill. It would be seen that the bill purported to be a measure to regulate the elective franchise in the flistrict of Columbia. It was more than that. It not only regulates the franchise, it extends it and enlarges it. The principal reature of the bill, and that which is of most interest to the Senate and to the country, and which probably challenges all attention, is that it embraced the colored cluzene of the District of Columbia. In this particular it is a novelty, to describe the bill a single phrase. He would say it was a measure for impartial restricted suffrage—that is to my, it professed to be impartial among all the male citizens of the United States resident in the District, and it is confined to persons shows a certain age, and that it exercises papers and briane persons and persons guilty of fesiony and ather infamous offences. It is impartial restricted suffrage—that it is confined to the male set, and the restricted suffrage as designation form universal or manhood enfrage as designatished from universal or manhood enfrage, of which the country has heard so much of late. Mr. Morril then alluded to the position of the Senate in this measure; that perition had been stodownly misrepresented by the press of the country. The writings of the press on this subject were disgrate of to American journalism. The Senate had been stodownly misrepresented by the press of the country. The writings of the press on this subject were disgrate of to American journalism. The Senate had been stodownly misrepresented by the press of the country. The writings of the press on this important measure. Such was not the case. The fen

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REPUBLICAN FORM OF COVERNMENT TO CENTAIN MOUTHERN

for bills, the following were introduced:—
By Mr. Wano, (rep.) of N. Y.—Bill to grant to certain
States that have been in rebellion a republican form of
government. It was read twice and referred to the finconstruction Committee, and ordered printed.
It provides for the appointment of Provisional Governors for those States, who are to call State Conventions.
All male persons, native born or naturalized, who have
been residents of the election district six months, irrespective of color, of the age of twenty-one years, and
not belonging to the excepted classes, to vote in selecting delegates to the conventions: the delegates to be
loyal men. The excepted classes are those who
have held office, civil or military, under the confederacy;
guerillas, publishers of robel newspapers, rebels who viosited as each to support the constitution, or who have
been educated at the Naval or Military Academy. When
the delegates frame a State constitution for who have
been educated at the Naval or Military Academy. When
the delegates frame a State constitution that shall secore
suffrags to all but the exceptional classes, and shall disquasity from bolding office all who sided in the rebellion,
and secure to all men not disquarified by treason or other
of the adoption of the constitution by the people provide
for the election of State, judicial and legislative officers,
and shall submit the constitution to the people surhorized to vote for delecates for their adoption or rejection.
When said constitution shall be adopted, and the amendments proposed by Congress to the constitution of the
United States are depted, then the loyal members of
Congress from those states to be admitted to their seata.

AMERICAL ATLANDO TALBRIGHED to the people surhorized to vote for delecates to the the top members of
Congress from those states to be admitted to their seata.

AMERICAL ATLANDO TALBRIGHED ONLY.

Mr. Danzas, (rep.) of N. Y., latroduced a bill granting
a right to land a submarine cable of the American Atlantic Felgraph Com

operations in two years and the government to have priority of use.

THE SETTRALITY LAWS.

Mr. Rogers, (dem.) of N. J., introduced a bill to repeal the neutrality may. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee. It repeals all the act entitled "An act in addition to the act for the penishment of certain crimes arainst the United States and the acts therein mentioned, excepting the twelfth section thereof."

VALOUTY or reconstruct PROXIMATIONS, RIG.

Mr. BINGHAM, 1791, 107 folio, introduced a bill the clare valid and concisience fortain proclamations of the President and sets in precianent thereof, and time fine occurs mart at and military commissions for the suppression of the late rebettion. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Mr. Pangument, (rep.) of Ind., introduced a bill to make treams of ones by distranching within the District of Committee States on excepted or excepted the functions of efficie from or under the so-called Confederals States of America or any of them. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

Pressons to yield Solaranching or the early states of America or any of them. Read twice and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

of America or any of them. Read in on and referred to the Judiciary Committee.

PRODUCE TO THE SOLUTION OF THE WAS OF 1812.

Mr. Van Horn, (vp.) of N. Y. presented a position of 18 extended of position of one of the tendence of the control of the passage of a law granten received. New York, which for the passage of a law granten received to the surviving solution of the war of 1812. Referred to the Committee on Pressons or the correct of the Committee on Pressons of the Committee of the Committ

mittee.

On motion of Mr. Brandsuzz, (rep.) of Conn., the Committee on Commerce was instructed to inquire waster foreign vessels have been or are engaged in the consuming trade, contrary to the laws of the United States, and report the facts with such recommendations as shall prevent the same.

On motion of Mr. Banks, (rep.) of Mass, the Military Committee was instructed to consider the expediency of providing for an increase of pay for soldiers detailed for the purpose of clerical duty in the several departments.

On motion of Mr BUCKLAND the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of passing a law for the relief of discharged soldiers who have accidentary lost their discharges.

On motion of Mr. Garriero, (rep.) of Ohio, the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of presenting to the State of Ohio the iember and other material belonging the United States at Camp Chase, Ohio, to be used in the erection of a State asytum for the idiotic.

Otho, to be used in the erection of a State asylum for the iddote.

\*\*FMALL DITTLEMP\*\*.

On motion of Mr. McKer (rep.) of Ky., the Committee on Ways and Means was instructed to inquire into the expediency of exempting distiliers who dist. I annually less than twenty barries from the heems tax imposed by act of July 13, 1896.

On motion of Mr. Course, (dem.) of Tean., the Military Committee was instructed to inquire into the expediency of extending to the Home Guards of Kuntucky the beautiff the law equalizing boundles.

On motion of Mr. Julia, (rep.) of Ind., the Committee on Invalid Pensions was instructed to inquire mo the expediency of so amending the Pension laws as to allow applicants of pensions to recover the exime from the date of their discharce.

On motion of Mr. Fanguras the Horectary of the Treasury was directed to furnish information as to the distribution of the \$160.000 appropriated has assisten for increased salaries in the Treasury Department.

On motion of Mr. Hill., (rep.) of Ind., similar information was celled for as to the distribution of the \$150.000 granted for the same purpose by the act of March 2, 1896.

On motion of Mr. Moutrow, (rep.) of Ill., the Judiclary

The Stranger, presented a communication from the Navy Department in reference to the thouse remotion of the 21th of July, 1866, offered by Mr. Wriget, which directed as quantitation of the conclude of bowner hay. N. J., and the mouthe of the Paramet and Harkengack from the land of the state that was a custor for the Count hay.

Committee was nectored to imprise them to repeaturely of precenting to the State of Chick the inshire and Ching Charles and the contract to longing the United States at Ching Charles (1994). The Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the Ching State of States (1994). The Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the Ching State of States (1994). The Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the Ching State of States (1994). The Ching State of States (1994) is a second of the State of States (1994) is a secon